



Worship Bulletin

Dear Ones,

Sometimes when we read a story, we should not only look at the elements and characters that are included in the story, but also at what is left out.

Chapter 3 of Nehemiah is a chapter that lists who did what work in the rebuilding of the wall. A lot of people participated, even non-builders.

What is missing from this chapter is any mention of the work of the 'hero' of our story. Nehemiah is never mentioned.

Hmmmm....

Is there something here for us to learn?

Warmly,

Steve

God the Father Calls Us to Worship Him

Pentecost

Today we reflect on the day on which, fifty days after Christ's resurrection, the Holy Spirit descended on the disciples on the day of Pentecost. Pentecost was an established Jewish festival also known as the Feast of Weeks, which drew people from many nations back to Jerusalem (Lev 23:15-21; Deut 16:16). Pentecost is a new beginning. It recognizes the empowering of the Church to reach the world with the Gospel. In celebrating Pentecost, the Church expresses its gratitude for the faithfulness of Christ in fulfilling His promise to send "another counselor" (John 14:16); celebrates the work of the Spirit in renewing all of creation; professes its confidence and security in knowing the Spirit's power for mission; and grows in awareness of the immensity of its calling to reach the world with the Gospel.

Preparation for Worship

They Repaired

"It is not so much the case that God has a mission for His Church in the world, as that God has a Church for His mission in the world. Mission was not made for the Church; the Church was made for mission - God's mission... If it's not missional, it's not Church." -Christopher Wright

"The church is not in the world to teach sinners how to straighten up and fly right. It's supposed to take sheep who can be nothing but lost and stand them up to proclaim that lostness, deadness, uselessness, and nothingness are God's cup of tea...The church's true work is to invite us all to go moonstruck over the news that the one operative consideration in our life is the Passion of the Finder to find." -Robert Farrar Capon

Call to Worship

Acts 2:17-18, 21 (Joel 2:28-29, 32)

In the last days, God says,
I will pour out my Spirit on all people.
Your sons and daughters will prophesy,
your young men will see visions,
your old men will dream dreams.
Even on my servants, both men and women,
I will pour out my Spirit in those days,
and they will prophesy...

**And everyone who calls
on the name of the Lord will be saved.**

Invocation

Song of Adoration

LORD SANCTIFY YOUR CHURCH

Breathe in me, Holy Spirit, that my thoughts may be holy.
Act in me, Holy Spirit, that my work may be holy.

Draw my heart, Holy Spirit, that I love what is holy.
Strengthen me, Holy Spirit, to defend what is holy.

*Guard me, guard me,
Guard me now, Holy Spirit, that I may be holy.
Amen.*

*"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him,
so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit."
-Romans 15:13*

A Prayer of Augustine of Hippo (orig. 4th century); Tune: ©2006 Mark Dicristina.
Used by permission. CCLI #708363

Welcome

We are glad you have joined us this morning! If you are "visiting" our church for the first time, we encourage you to send us an email at mail@wepc.org to introduce yourself, request prayer, or request more information about our church.

The tapestry at the front of the sanctuary has been returned to its many colors during the season of Pentecost. The piece is entitled "[Psalm 148](#)" and was created by a team of WEPC artists.

New Testament Reading

Ephesians 4:1-7

I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call— one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all. But grace was given to each one of us according to the measure of Christ's gift.

Reflecting on the Lord's Prayer

Adapted from Westminster Shorter Catechism, Q&A 106 (1647)

What do we mean when we pray, "lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one"?

When we pray, "lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one"¹ we ask that God would either keep us from being tempted to sin², or support and deliver us when we are tempted.³

¹ Matt. 6:13; ² Matt. 26:41; ³ I Cor. 12:7-8

The Ministry of Prayer

Concluding with the Lord's Prayer, Matthew 6:9-13

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be Thy name,
Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from the evil one.
For Thine is the Kingdom and the power
and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

Offering

If participation in the offering is part of your weekly worship, please either mail your offering to the church office (9008 Quioccasin Road, Henrico, VA, 23229) or visit our website (www.wepc.org/resources/giving) for online giving options.

Song of Praise

LORD FROM SORROWS DEEP I CALL (PSALM 42)

Lord, from sorrows deep I call when my hope is shaken;
Torn and ruined from the fall, hear my desperation.
For so long I've pled and prayed, "God come to my rescue!"
Even so, the thorn remains; still my heart will praise You.

Storms within my troubled soul, questions without answers;
On my faith these billows roll--God be now my shelter.
Why are you cast down my soul? Hope in Him who saves you.
When the fires have all grown cold,
Cause this heart to praise You.

Should my life be torn from me, every worldly pleasure;
When all I possess is grief, God be then my treasure.
Be my vision in the night; be my hope and refuge.
'Til my faith is turned to sight, Lord my heart will praise You.

*Oh, my soul, put your hope in God,
My help, my rock, I will praise Him.
Sing, oh sing, through the raging storm;
You're still my God, my salvation.*

"Hope in God; for I shall again praise him, my salvation." -Psalm 42:5
Matt Boswell | Matt Papa © 2018 Getty Music Hymns and Songs.
Used by permission. CCL# 708363

God the Son Renews Us through His Word

Scripture Reading

Nehemiah 3:1-32

¹ Then Eliashib the high priest rose up with his brothers the priests, and they built the Sheep Gate. They consecrated it and set its doors. They consecrated it as far as the Tower of the Hundred, as far as the Tower of Hananel. ² And next to him the men of Jericho built. And next to them Zaccur the son of Imri built.

³ The sons of Hassenaah built the Fish Gate. They laid its beams and set its doors, its bolts, and its bars. ⁴ And next to them Meremoth the son of Uriah, son of Hakkoz repaired. And next to them Meshullam the son of Berechiah, son of Meshezabel repaired. And next to them Zadok the son of Baana repaired. ⁵ And next to them the Tekoites repaired, but their nobles would not stoop to serve their Lord.

⁶ Joiada the son of Paseah and Meshullam the son of Besodeiah repaired the Gate of Yeshanah. They laid its beams and set its doors, its bolts, and its bars. ⁷ And next to them repaired Melatiah the Gibeonite and Jadon the Meronothite, the men of Gibeon and of Mizpah, the seat of the governor of the province Beyond the River. ⁸ Next to them Uzziel the son of Harhaiah, goldsmiths, repaired. Next to him Hananiah, one of the perfumers, repaired, and they restored Jerusalem as far as the Broad Wall. ⁹ Next to them Rephaiah the son of Hur, ruler of half the district of Jerusalem, repaired. ¹⁰ Next to them Jedaiah the son of Harumaph repaired opposite his house. And next to him Hattush the son of Hashabneiah repaired. ¹¹ Malchijah the son of Harim and Hasshub the son of Pahath-moab repaired another section and the Tower of the Ovens. ¹² Next to him Shallum the son of Hallohesh, ruler of half the district of Jerusalem, repaired, he and his daughters.

¹³ Hanun and the inhabitants of Zanoah repaired the Valley Gate. They rebuilt it and set its doors, its bolts, and its bars, and repaired a thousand cubits of the wall, as far as the Dung Gate.

¹⁴ Malchijah the son of Rechab, ruler of the district of Beth-haccherem, repaired the Dung Gate. He rebuilt it and set its doors, its bolts, and its bars.

¹⁵ And Shallum the son of Col-hozeh, ruler of the district of Mizpah, repaired the Fountain Gate. He rebuilt it and covered it and set its doors, its bolts, and its bars. And he built the wall of the Pool of Shelah of the king's garden, as far as the stairs that go down from the city of David. ¹⁶ After him Nehemiah the son of Azbuk, ruler of half the district of Beth-zur, repaired to a point opposite the tombs of David, as far as the artificial pool, and as far as the house of the mighty men. ¹⁷ After him the Levites repaired: Rehum the son of Bani. Next to him Hashabiah, ruler of half the district of Keilah, repaired for his district. ¹⁸ After him their brothers repaired: Bavvai the son of Henadad, ruler of half the district of Keilah. ¹⁹ Next to him Ezer the son of Jeshua, ruler of Mizpah, repaired another section opposite the ascent to the armory at the buttress. ²⁰ After him Baruch the son of Zabbai repaired another section from the buttress to the door of the house of Eliashib the high priest.

²¹ After him Meremoth the son of Uriah, son of Hakkoz repaired another section from the door of the house of Eliashib to the end of the house of Eliashib. ²² After him the priests, the men of the surrounding area, repaired. ²³ After them Benjamin and Hasshub

repaired opposite their house. After them Azariah the son of Maaseiah, son of Ananiah repaired beside his own house.

²⁴ After him Binnui the son of Henadad repaired another section, from the house of Azariah to the buttress and to the corner.

²⁵ Palai the son of Uzai repaired opposite the buttress and the tower projecting from the upper house of the king at the court of the guard. After him Pedaiah the son of Parosh ²⁶ and the temple servants living on Ophel repaired to a point opposite the Water Gate on the east and the projecting tower. ²⁷ After him the Tekoites repaired another section opposite the great projecting tower as far as the wall of Ophel.

²⁸ Above the Horse Gate the priests repaired, each one opposite his own house. ²⁹ After them Zadok the son of Immer repaired opposite his own house. After him Shemaiah the son of Shecaniah, the keeper of the East Gate, repaired. ³⁰ After him Hananiah the son of Shelemiah and Hanun the sixth son of Zalaph repaired another section. After him Meshullam the son of Berechiah repaired opposite his chamber. ³¹ After him Malchijah, one of the goldsmiths, repaired as far as the house of the temple servants and of the merchants, opposite the Muster Gate, and to the upper chamber of the corner. ³² And between the upper chamber of the corner and the Sheep Gate the goldsmiths and the merchants repaired.

Sermon

Each Sunday, Worship Notes with the Scripture text, study questions, and recordings are posted at www.wepc.org/worship/sermons.

God the Holy Spirit Transforms Us by His Grace

Confession of Sin

Father in heaven, we confess that in our thoughts, words, and deeds, we have sinned and grieved Your Holy Spirit, who dwells within us. Rather than be led by You, we have followed the spirit of our age into self-reliance and self-worship. You created us for fellowship with Yourself and one another; but we rebelled, and made enemies of our Maker and each other. We have acted as if the Cross of Christ had no power to reconcile us to God. We have lived as if there was no Spirit of God convicting, sanctifying, encouraging, and helping us. Forgive us, good Lord. And give us grace that we might eagerly forsake our self-directed paths and keep in step with Your Spirit. Amen.

Silent Confession of Sin

Words of Encouragement

Romans 8:1-2

Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit of life set me free from the law of sin and death.

Songs of Response to God's Grace

WONDERFUL MERCIFUL SAVIOR

Wonderful, merciful Savior,
Precious Redeemer and Friend,
Who would have thought that a Lamb
Could rescue the souls of men?
Oh, You rescue the souls of men.

*You are the One that we praise,
You are the One we adore.
You give the healing and grace
Our hearts always hunger for,
Oh, our hearts always hunger for.*

Counselor, Comforter, Keeper,
Spirit we long to embrace;
You offer hope when our hearts
Have hopelessly lost the way.
Oh, we hopelessly lost the way.

Almighty, infinite Father,
Faithfully loving Your own;
Here in our weakness You find us,
Falling before Your throne.
Oh, we're falling before Your throne.

"And He will be called Wonderful..." -Isaiah 9:7

Dawn Rodgers & Eric Wyse, ©1989 Word Music ASCAP/Dayspring Music BMI.
Used by permission. CCLI #708363

TRINITY SONG

Holy Father, Son, and Spirit,
Holy Communion, Three in One.

Come with Your peace, with Your invitation,
Bind us together in holy love.

"But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all that I said to you."

-John 14:26

Sandra McCracken, ©2016 Integrity Worship Music. Used by permission.
CCLI #708363

GREAT IS THY FAITHFULNESS

Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father.
There is no shadow of turning with Thee;
Thou changest not, Thy compassions they fail not,
As Thou hast been, Thou forever wilt be.

*Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see.
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided,
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me.*

Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,
Sun, moon, and stars in their courses above
Join with all nature in manifold witness
To Thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love.

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
Blessings all mine with ten thousand beside.

"Great is Your faithfulness..." -Lamentations 3:23

Thomas O. Chisholm (1923); Tune: FAITHFULNESS, William Runyan (1923).
Public domain. CCLI# 708363

DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below.
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host,
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Amen.

"Let everything that has breath praise the LORD." -Psalm 150:6
Thomas Ken (1709); Tune: "Old 100th", Louis Bourgeois (1551)

"Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality." -Romans 12:12-13

Benediction

Pastor Steve Shelby preached today's sermon. Worship was led by **Pastor Kevin Greene**. **Worship Arts Coordinator Becca Wethered, Audrey Snyder, and Pastor Kevin Greene** led this morning's congregational singing. **Elder & Youth Ministry Director Tim Cornwell and Jeremy D'Errico** managed today's audio and video live stream.

Q & A with Pastor Steve Shelby

Join Steve this morning after the worship service, as he responds live to some of your text inquiries related to the worship service. We welcome questions related to the sermon, as well as general responses to something that encouraged your heart during the service. We plan on the Q & A lasting approximately 10-15 minutes. Please text **804-608-9372** with your questions and encouragements.

In Jesus' Name Food Pantry Ministry: Volunteers Needed

We are in need of some more volunteers to help with our Food Pantry Ministry that serves on Sundays after the worship service.

If you're interested in joining a family-friendly, front-line ministry, then please consider becoming part of the "In Jesus' Name Food Pantry" family. There are no special skills needed, just a love for Jesus and a willingness to share that love with others. Time commitment involves approximately one Sunday a month for 1-2 hours.

We also have an immediate need for interpreters. Our guests speak a variety of languages including Arabic, Spanish, Dari, Pashto, and others.

Please contact [Jim Black](mailto:jim_black@verizon.net) (jim_black@verizon.net) or [Chris Black](mailto:cs_black@aol.com) (cs_black@aol.com) if you are interested in volunteering.